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Docket No.: R2180.0159/P159
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Kazunari Kimino

Application No.: 10/609,634

Confirmation No.: 4954

Filed: July 1, 2003

Art Unit: 1734

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR
MANUFACTURING SEMICONDUCTOR
DEVICE

Examiner: G. R. Koch

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION
IN RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS AF Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the rejection dated February 23, 2007. Claims 1-11 and 23-40 are pending in the application. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the original claims and other claims in this and other applications.

In the "Response to Arguments" section, the Office Action asserts that "in response to applicant's argument that the imaging functions are different, a recitation of the intended use of the claimed invention must result in a structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art in order to patentably distinguish the claimed